

Will Turbo Race Again?

Will somebody build a turbine car for Indianapolis under rules Andy Granatelli said were impossible to live with?

There are a few people who think so, including Granatelli's former chief engineer, Kenneth B. Wallis. Wallis is "secretly" building a turbine race car in Torrance, while observers predict darkly that Granatelli will sue Wallis if he shows up at Indy with a car built using "secret" knowledge he gleaned at the STP shops earlier this year.

The intrigue goes deeper than threatened lawsuit. It could upset the structure of American auto racing by causing federal courts to rule on the fairness of technical regulations set for the world's most important auto race, the Indianapolis 500.

Here's what is happening. Wallis left the employ of Granatelli's STP Paxton Products Division last summer after an unsuccessful attempt by Granatelli to have his turbocar reinstated by USAC for the 1968 Indianapolis race.

After the car's tremendous performance, with Parnelli Jones in the driver's seat, the rules committee decided it was not competitive with piston-engine cars and set down restrictions which Granatelli branded as unfair.

In appeals before the rules committee, and later USAC's board of directors, Wallis stood side by side with Granatelli in arguing that the car should be allowed to race next year. They were turned down.

Persistent rumors that all was not well in the relationship between employer Andy Gran and designer Wallis erupted into print last June that Wallis was resigning from STP.

That Wallis was unhappy was true, but that he was quitting his job was sort of on the order of that story about the disappointed lover who threatened:

"If you don't marry me, I'll die."

Forty years later he did.

Wallis didn't wait 40 years, but his rift with Granatelli wasn't so serious as to cause separation until the story made the newspapers. There was some bitterness when Wallis emptied his desk at Des Plaines, Ill., and returned home to California. He vowed to show his former boss up by building a turbine car legal under USAC rules.

Nobody can confirm sponsorship of Wallis' project at this time, but there is good reason to believe the principal benefactor is Goodyear. His shop is on the premises of Ted Halibrand's race car building facility and wheel factory.

Carroll Shelby, originally said to have hired Wallis, disclaims the project because of his obvious allegiance to Ford. Halibrand refers all inquiries to Shelby.

Sitting in the shop is a \$75,000 General Electric seven-stage turbine, one of three engines Granatelli investigated before settling on the Pratt & Whitney power plant he used in the turbocar last May. A wood mock-up of the car is said to be completed.

Whether or not Wallis will build a legal turbine race car hinges on his design genius and on interpretation of rules that eliminated the STP car from next year's 500-mile classic.

Without digging too deeply into technical matters, power output of this type of turbine depends on the efficient mixture of air and fuel. The more air, the better the combustion, up to a point at which heat becomes a problem. The more heat, the less the life of the engine.

It was on this critical issue that USAC reduced the air inlet of the engine from 23 to 15 inches. When that decision was announced, Granatelli said no competitive turbine engine was available to fill that specification.

Wallis, by starting his project, thinks otherwise. Racing expert Frank Falkner claims that three usable turbine engines are available under 1968 rules—a 375-h.p. unit made by Allison, a rather out-of-date Boeing turbine sold to Caterpillar Tractor, and the General Electric engine used in helicopters.

Reports circulating in racing circles have it that Wallis talked with Can-Am sports car kings Bruce McLaren and Denis Hulme about driving the Wallis turbocar at Indy next May. Wallis is aiming at a January test date for the car, either at Phoenix or Hanford.

Is this a racing news story or some weird sort of science fiction? Will the almost inaudible whine of a whirling turbine be mixed among the high-pitched roars of Ford OHC and Offenhauser engines at Indy next May? Will the bitter feud between Granatelli and Wallis erupt in a lawsuit? Will a court injunction prevent USAC officials from enforcing their technical rules?

Will the business ever get back to good old fashioned auto racing?

Scouting rounds a guy out



...makes him tough. Shows him that how far he can go is a lot farther than he thought.

Two Tournaments Slated

Compton High School's fastbreak basketball team is favored to win the North High Christmas Classic beginning Tuesday at the North gym.

The Tartars have four returning starting players and have been touted as the favorite to win the CIF championship in the spring.

Compton, however, will get its stiffest test from 11-time winner North High which won the Pacific Shores and Beverly Hills Tournament.

In the first round Tuesday Compton meets Fermin Lassen at 3 p.m. and North takes on Paos Verdes at 8:30 p.m.

A North High No. 2 team (Blues) will play Long Beach Woodrow Wilson at 4:30 p.m.

after which Monrovia and Culver City clash at 7 p.m.

THE EIGHT TEAMS in the Bishop Montgomery Tournament starting Wednesday are relatively even.

Montgomery will go into the event with a 10-1 record and will meet two-time defending champion Torrance. The battle is the fourth game on Wednesday's schedule at 8:30 p.m.

The opening pairings match Rolling Hills against San Gabriel Mission at 4 p.m.; Leuzinger against Mira Costa at 5:30; and South against West at 7 p.m.

The lower bracket is "All-Torrance," which assures a local team in the finals.

TICKETS ON SALE FOR RACE

Tickets for the Motor Trend/Riverside 500 Jan. 21 at Riverside International Raceway are on sale at Wallich's Music City, 17540 S. Hawthorne Ave., Torrance, Calif.

Prices are \$5 general admission, plus \$4 and \$3 for reserved seats. Children under 12 are admitted free of charge.

The sixth annual NASCAR Grand National late model stock car season opener, first major auto race anywhere in the world in 1968, will feature the top drivers of stock car, Indianapolis and sports car racing.

Basketball Scheduled For Girls

Three girls' basketball leagues, regulated according to age, are being formed by the Torrance Recreation Department.

Practice is slated for Christmas vacation at Torrance High School, 2200 Carson St., while actual league play will be at North High School, 3620 W. 182nd St., and South High School, 4801 Pacific Coast Highway, starting Saturday, Jan. 13.

Fifth and sixth grade girls will vie in the Peanut League and 7th and 8th grade girls will compete in the Pony Tail League. Both leagues are scheduled for North High School.

High school girls will play in the Powder Puff league at South High.

In addition to Christmas vacation registration, a special clinic for the Peanut League and Ponytail League participants will be held Saturday, Jan. 6, at North High School from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The clinic will stress game skills, team strategy, rules for players, manager and coaches.

For further information on either the basketball leagues or the officials clinic, contact Miss Vel Moore, women's sports supervisor, at 320-6913.

Women Can Participate In Sports

Women's basketball and volleyball leagues, now in progress at Narbonne High School girls' gym, 24300 S. Western Ave., have openings available for new participants.

Any woman 18 years or older is eligible to sign up for either volleyball or basketball. Leagues play from 7 to 9 p.m. every Thursday.

Sign-up is available on the night of the event with the leader-in-charge. No fee is charged.

This program for women was initiated to help the participants develop playing and officiating skills in basketball and volleyball.

For further information, call Miss Vel Moore at 328-5310.

Safety Run To Start At Capitol

Something new has been added to the quest for safe automobile drivers in California.

This is a two-day driving test from the state Capitol to Los Angeles, in which some 30 top, teenage drivers, selected on a competitive basis from school districts throughout the state, will demonstrate what they have learned about safe driving.

Press-Herald SPORTS

DECEMBER 24, 1967



RICH KREUL... Former Torrance High basketball player is playing ball for El Camino College this season. The Warriors will compete in the Metropolitan Conference race after the first of the year.

Montgomery High Wins 10th Game of Season

Bishop Montgomery High School got ready for its third annual basketball tournament Wednesday by defeating Verbum Dei, 69-53, in a non-league game Friday night in the winner's gym.

Larry Wiggins scored 33 points for the Knights. The team won its 10th game in 11 outings by outscoring Verbum Dei, 26-12, in the first quarter. Bishop never trailed.

Best Trade Brought Roger Brown to Rams

When the smoke clears away from this most fantastic of all Ram seasons, it may be decided that the shrewdest deal made in 1967 by Horse Trader George Allen was the one that brought defensive tackle Roger Brown to Los Angeles.

When the Achilles-tendon injury to Roosevelt Grier in the pre-season game with Kansas City sent him to the sidelines for the rest of the year, it all but wrecked the famous Fearsome Foursome and Allen's hopes for a championship. His entire defensive planning had been based on a great pass rush from a seasoned forward wall, backed up by an experienced secondary. And where do you find another defensive tackle the caliber of Rosy Grier?

Why, at Detroit, of course. There was Roger Brown, a former All Pro, hobbling around on a bad knee and the Lions on a rebuilding program. Allen dangled three draft choices at coach Joe Schmidt and had his man.

Brown explained this week, as he and his fellow Rams prepared for the Western Conference playoff with Green Bay at Milwaukee Saturday, how the trade paid off for the Rams.

Director Named for Charities

Harry M. Bardt of Beverly Hills, prominent banker and civic leader in Southern California, has been elected to the Board of Trustees of the Hollywood Turf Club Associated Charities.

The charities organization, an entirely separate entity from the Hollywood Turf Club, distributes to many welfare agencies of the southland area the funds raised by charity racing days at Hollywood Park and contributed directly by the Inglewood track.

This amount usually exceeds \$500,000 annually and has now passed \$15 million since thoroughbred racing was started at Hollywood Park.

Doug Sanders Enters 42nd Golf Tourney

Colorful Doug Sanders, one of the biggest winners in golf over the past decade, has sent in his entry for the 42nd annual Los Angeles Open.

The Open, the oldest civic-sponsored links tourney in the nation, will be played Jan. 24-28 at Brookside Park Golf Club in Pasadena.

Sanders has another big year in winnings with \$125,000 in 1967. The man with the short back swing has been one of the most consistent big winners in recent golfing annals.

A man with a wild-colored outfit for every day of the month, Sanders is one of the more outgoing players in the sport.

Tournament Chairman Ralph Miller said Friday was the deadline for amateurs to enter the special amateurs-only qualifying tournament for the Open. There will be six places in the L. A. Open starting field to the low scorers at Hillcrest next Friday.

Wilt Exceeds 24,000 Mark In Scoring

Wilt Chamberlain of the Philadelphia 76ers gave himself an early Christmas present this week when he became the first player in NBA history to crack the 24,000-point scoring barrier.

Wilt has a total of 24,250 points. His closest pursuer among the active players is Elgin Baylor of Los Angeles with 18,724 points.

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Airwaves Filled With Mr. Football

This is the season to be jolly, but it is also the time for the nation's top football teams to get serious about postseason championships.

The National Football League opened its championship playoffs yesterday with the Los Angeles Rams playing Green Bay for the Western Division title and today Cleveland plays at Dallas for the Eastern Division crown.

The American Football League will play its championship game next Sunday.

The granddaddy of all postseason college games is the Rose Bowl game which is played Monday, New Year's Day, in Pasadena.

A schedule of all coming football games, together with television particulars follows. The time given is Eastern Standard Time.

TODAY
NFL — Cleveland Browns, 9-5, vs. Dallas Cowboys, 9-5, for NFL's Eastern Conference championship, 2:30 p.m. CBS.

DEC. 25
North-South Shrine Game, Miami — North college stars vs. South college stars, 2:15 p.m., ABC.

DEC. 30
East-West Shrine Game, San Francisco — East college stars vs. West college stars, 4:30 p.m., NBC.

Blue-Gray Game, Montgomery, Ala. — College seniors from North (Blue) vs. South (Gray), 2 p.m., CBS.

Gator Bowl, Jacksonville, Fla. — Penn State, 8-2, vs. Florida State, 7-2-1, 2:15 p.m. ABC.

Sun Bowl, El Paso, Tex. — Mississippi, 6-3-1, vs. University of Texas, El Paso, 6-2-1, 3 p.m., special network of 125 stations.

DEC. 31
NFL Championship Game, Los Angeles or Green Bay, Wis. — Eastern Conference champion, either Dallas or Cleveland vs. Western Conference champion, either Los Angeles or Green Bay. If at Green Bay, 2 p.m., if at Los Angeles, 4 p.m. CBS.

AFL Championship Game, at Oakland, Calif. — Oakland vs. Houston, time to be announced later, NBC. Or Oakland vs. New York Jets on Jan. 7.

JAN. 1
Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif. — Southern California, 9-1, vs. Indiana, 9-1, 4:45 p.m., NBC.
Orange Bowl, Miami — Oklahoma, 9-1, vs. Tennessee, 9-1, 7:45 p.m., NBC.

Sugar Bowl, New Orleans — Wyoming, 10-0, vs. Louisiana State, 6-3-1, 1:45 p.m., NBC.

Cotton Bowl, Dallas — Alabama, 8-1-1, vs. Texas A&M, 6-4, 1:45 p.m., CBS.

JAN. 6
Senior Bowl, Mobile, Ala. — Senior college stars from north and south, 2 p.m., NBC.
Hula Bowl, Honolulu — College All Stars, 5 p.m., ABC.

JAN. 7
NFL Playoff Bowl, Miami — Second place team of Eastern Conference vs. second place team of Western Conference, 2 p.m., CBS.

JAN. 14
NFL Pro Bowl, Los Angeles — Western Conference All-Stars vs. Eastern Conference All-Stars, 4 p.m., CBS.

AFL All-Star Game, Jacksonville, Fla. — Eastern Division All-Stars vs. Western Division All-Stars, 1:30 p.m., NBC.

Autos Race At Ascot

Jerry Jones of Hawthorne, Lloyd Brooks of Gardena, and Ron Schuessler of Redondo Beach have a 70-car field in this afternoon's Figure 8 stock car racing program at Gardena's Ascot Park. Racing starts at 2 p.m.

A day before Christmas program has been slated by racing director Harry Schooler.

Exercise Class Slated Jan. 4

New exercise classes for women will begin at the Lomita Recreation Center, 24428 Eshelman Ave., Jan. 4. Classes will meet Thursdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

CASSIUS STRIPPED OF TITLE

MEXICO CITY — The World Boxing Council reversed its stand on Cassius Clay Tuesday and declared the world heavyweight title vacant. The WBC earlier had held that Cassius should be regarded as champion pending his appeal from his conviction for refusing to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Joe Frazier of Philadelphia was named the No. 1 heavyweight contender in the WBC winter rankings.

Jimmy Ellis, Jerry Quarry and Thad Spencer—involved in the heavyweight elimination series—ranked in that order behind Frazier.

Golfers To Play Jan. 3-7

Veteran pro Tommy Jacobs has tossed his hat into the ring for the \$31,000 Southern California Golf Open.

The first tournament of the year—after a five-week layoff—will see a host of top flight touring golfers driving, chipping and putting for \$6,000 first place money in the 54-hole tournament at picturesque Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park.

There will be \$23,000 in the pro purse. Action begins Jan. 3.

Open to all professionals who have established USGA handicaps — and offering tough competition after the seasonal layoff—Los Coyotes pro Jack Ellis said the field, in addition to popular Jacobs, will include Billy Casper, Dave Stockton, Dave Hill, Charles Sifford, Chris Blocker, Bob McAlister, Richard Martinez, Ron Cerrudo and Howie Johnson.

Also indicating they will be on the course are defending champion Dean Refram, Gene Littler, Gay Brewer, Al Gelberger, Jack Fleck, Ken Venturi, Dave Stockton and big George Bayer, the 1966 winner.

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